

Oscar and Bertha by the hand and hurriedly went down into the cellar and closed the door. We waited until all was quiet before we made up our minds to come up out of the cellar to look around and make a check of the damage caused by the cyclone. The only damage to our house was that the wind tore off the entire hand railing that encircled the second floor porch on the east side of the house and carried it away. A lot of fruit trees were uprooted and all of the fences were blown down. All of our cattle and horses were gone, so we had to go out and round them all up. There was a wheat field east of the School House and the wheat was all standing in shocks. The velocity of the wind was so great that it blew down the shocks, picked up all of the bundles and dropped them on the windward side of a tall willow fence located on the west side of the large fruit orchard of the old Ruth Home east of the Ruth School. (The writer, having been born in this home, recalls that when he was but a youngster, there were several occasions when willow trees began to grow through the wire fence built upon this line. Since they were not wanted, my father cut them down. In answer to my inquiry as to how they began to grow there without anyone having planted them, I was told that at one time the entire fence consisted of a row of willow trees. They probably were planted there to serve as a windbreak to protect the fruit trees from the severe cold winter winds.)

Peter B. Ruth went to the home of John A. Ruth on this day to get the wheat binder and upon his return to his home, remarked that they did not have a storm at the home of John A. Ruth. (This is the farm where Benjamin Schoene used to live, not very far from the Seewald place.)

This was the cyclone in which Katie and Elizabeth Ruth were caught off guard. They, together with two of the hired men, were working in a field just south of the School House. The storm came up very suddenly from the west. The group decided to go to the School

House for protection from the storm. They started on a run, the two hired men arrived at the School House and turned to see how the two girls were making out, and seeing that they were not going to make it, they called to them to lay flat upon the ground until the storm had passed over. The girls obeyed instructions and received no injuries or ill affects other than a good drenching from the heavy rains that accompanied the severe storm.

(The Ruth School was severely damaged by the same cyclone. The story of the experience of the two Ruth girls, leaves one with the impression that the hired men got off rather easy, but such was not the case.

The two hired men who made it to the School House decided to enter the building to get protection from the storm. They entered through a window on the east side that was never locked, and as they were getting their breath and thinking how lucky they were to get into the building, the storm struck. Within the next moment, one of the men said: "Say, I do believe that this building is shaking, and I, am going to get out of here." Both men, without any hesitation, went out through the same window through which they entered. They went north along the east wall, then west along the north wall. Almost immediately after passing the north wall, the entire roof flew up into the air and dropped off toward the south and east, the south and west walls collapsed and fell in the same direction, thus missing the two men. They stopped to get their breath for a second time, looked at one another with a sigh of relief, then one said to the other: "Say, your face is as black as that of a negro." To which the other man replied: "If my face is as black as a negro's, then your face is just as black as mine."

The answer to this is that the storm knocked down the long stove pipe, showering the men with the soot that had accumulated on the inside of the pipe. This pipe ran from the center of the room, to the chimney located in the north wall of the building.)

On the seventeenth of July, in the year of 1877, a son was born to us. He passed away on this same day. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois.

On the thirty first of July, in the year of 1877, a son was born to David B. Ruth and Maria Ruth, Nee Berger. They named him Albert, but unfortunately, he passed away on the day of his birth. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

1878

On the twenty fourth day of August, in the year of 1878, a son was born to us. We named him Gustav W..

On the fifteenth day of September, in the year of 1878, Anna Pletscher Lauer, Nee Ruth, passed away at Summerfield, Illinois. She was the daughter of Jacob Ruth and Barbara Strohm. Anna was married two times. Her first marriage was to Jacob Pletscher who passed away on the fourth of March, in the year of 1869. Her second marriage was to Peter Lauer. She had one son and a daughter by her first marriage, and a daughter and two sons by her second marriage. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

On the thirtieth day of September, in the year of 1878, John Dahlem, the son of Gerhard Dahlem and his wife Elizabeth Dahlem, Nee Kroll, passed away in the home of his parents in Summerfield, Illinois. He was single. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois.

1879

On the thirteenth day of February, in the year of 1879, Reverend Van Der Smissen's wife passed away in Summerfield, Illinois. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

During the month of March, in the year of 1879, the David C. Ruth family, David Lehmann family, Susanna Krehbiel, Nee Ruth, wife of Christian Krehbiel, with her children and Katherine Krehbiel, Nee Ruth, widow of Johannes Krehbiel, with her children, migrated to Halstead, Kansas, to make their new homes. Christian

Krehbiel became the minister of the group that moved to Kansas, making it necessary to give up his job as minister of the Summerfield Congregation, a position that he held since the year of 1864.

On the twenty sixth of July, in the year of 1879, Marie Leisy, Nee Strohm, passed away at Summerfield, Illinois. She was the wife of Jacob Leisy who owned and operated the winery in Summerfield for a number of years. Marie was the sister of Barbara Strohm who married Jacob Ruth, and Katherine Strohm who married Reverend David Ruth. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

On the second day of October, in the year of 1879, Veronica Dahlem, Nee Ruth, wife of Jacob Dahlem, and daughter of Gerhard Ruth and Elizabeth Rupp, passed away in her home in Summerfield, Illinois. She was a sister of Jacob and Reverend David Ruth, who married sisters, Barbara and Katherine Strohm, respectively. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois.

Peter S. Haury passed away in his home in Summerfield, Illinois on the fourth day of November, in the year of 1879. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

On the eighth of December, in the year of 1879, Christina Vogt, Nee Bechtel, passed away in Summerfield, Illinois. She was the second wife of Gerhard Vogt. Before her second marriage, she was the widow of Jacob Schowalter. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

Christina Dettweiler, Gerhard Vogt's first wife, passed away in Lee County, Iowa, near Donnellson, on the seventeenth day of October, in the year of 1855, at the age of sixty five years, five months and two days. Her earthly remains lie buried at Donnellson, Iowa, in the Zion Church Cemetery.

1880

On the thirteenth of March, in the year of 1880, a son was born to us. We named him Albert Daniel.

Henry Berger, widower, married Susanna Wagner in Fort Madison, Iowa during the month of March in the year of 1880. This was the second marriage for Henry Berger, and eleven children were born to this union. His first marriage, was to Mary Faeth and this union was blest with two children, Mary, who married John C. Baer, and Lizzie, who married John Stoelzing.

1881

On November the fourteenth in the year of 1881, a son was born to us. We named him Harry Peter.

1882

My sister, Lizzie K. Baer, and Mr. Henry H. Ewert were united in marriage on the twentieth of August, in the year of 1882. They lived in Halstead, Kansas for a number of years and then moved up to Manitoba, Canada and made their home there. While her husband was busy with his Church and School work, she helped him out by doing the cooking for and feeding many of the teachers and scholars in the area. She was truly a great helpmate to him. She was the first woman to be connected with this sort of work in Canada. This was an entirely new experience for her.

1883

On the seventeenth day of January, in the year of 1883, Aunt Lena Faeth, Nee Berger, passed away quite suddenly. She was the youngest daughter, born on the twelfth day of November in the year of 1848. She was living with her mother for a long time. She married John Faeth of Fort Madison, Iowa.

During the month of May in the year of 1883, our one and one half year old son Harry Peter, was taken ill with some sort of a disease which left him lame on his right side and suffered much from poor health after that.

In the year of 1883, we bought a farm from father Christian Baer. It consisted of 160 acres and it was purchased at a cost of eighty Dollars per acre.

On the thirtieth of October, in the year of 1883, a son was born to us. We named him Walter Wesley.

1884

On February the twenty ninth in the year of 1884, we moved from our present place onto our new farm we purchased from father Christian Baer. It was quite a large undertaking for us, so we had to work hard and diligently, for a long time before we got everything taken care of and in good order. We had to do a lot of extra work and planning to arrange everything the way we wanted the place to be.

Jacob Leisy passed away in Summerfield, Illinois on March the thirtieth in the year of 1884. He owned and operated the winery in Summerfield for a number of years. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois.

(Jacob Leisy was born in Friedelsheim, Palatinate on December the twenty fourth, in the year of 1810. He married Marie Strohm in Eichstock, Upper Bavaria, on the eighth day of January in the year of 1841. He moved to Fraenking, Ainhofen, District of Dachau, in the year of 1840. In the year of 1845 he made a trip to the United States to find a suitable location for a group of Mennonite Families to establish a colony and make their new homes. After an extensive tour of available areas in the country, he selected the site in Saint Clair County, Illinois, situated in what is now Mascoutah and Lebanon Township, near the eastern boundary of said County, a little over thirty miles east of the City of Saint Louis, Missouri.

After selecting the site, he returned to his home in Fraenking, Upper Bavaria where he induced a group of the Mennonite Families to sell their property and migrate to the United States, and settle on the site he selected. He organized the group and became their leader and spokesman on the entire trip. This group came over on the ship "Samuel M. Fox." It arrived at the Port of New York on the third of August, in the year of 1852. His sister, Katherina, died of Typhoid while enroute on the ocean. Her earthly remains were buried at sea in the Atlantic Ocean.

From New York City, the group started on the long journey to the selected site. When the group arrived at Peoria, Illinois, and made inquiry about the trip to Saint Clair County, they learned that cholera had reached the epidemic stage in that area. Rather than expose themselves to the disease, they decided to go west into Lee County, Iowa, where John Carl Krehbiel and his family had made their home shortly after the area was opened to white settlers. Mr. Krehbiel and his family arrived in Iowa Territory on the first of November in the year of 1839. This group of migrants arrived at their destination on the twenty third day of August in the year of 1852. They made their first home in West Point and then bought farms located on the Franklin Prairie. Members of the group who were still interested in the Saint Clair County location, kept in close touch with their relatives and friends in that area and as an opportunity presented itself, they sold their Iowa homes and moved to the Illinois location they had originally selected. The last ones to move to this site, did so in the year of 1865.

In the year of 1853, Jacob Leisy bought a farm in Illinois about two miles south of Summerfield, moved onto it and operated it for several years. Later on, he sold his farm, moved into Summerfield and built a winery north of town and operated it for a number of years. The couple was childless.

On the twenty seventh day of April in the year of 1867, this couple made a Last Will and Testament, to the affect that the surviving partner was to inherit whatever properties and assets that had accumulated. Jacob Leisy outlived his wife, and shortly after her passing, he made a stipulation that the heirs of his wife, and those of her sisters and brothers who were still living in the Palatinate, should receive a sum of \$2,000.00 to be divided equally among them. Jacob Leisy also donated a substantial sum of money to the "Leisy Orphanage Society", organized for the benefit of the orphans in their group. Per Albert J. Ruth.)

On the twenty fourth of June in the year of 1884, our son Albert passed away at eleven o'clock in the evening after being seriously ill with pneumonia for nine days. He reached the age of four years and four days. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois.

Mrs. Susanna Krehbiel, Nee Ruth, wife of Reverend Valentine Krehbiel, passed away suddenly in her home at Moundridge, Kansas on July the fourth in the year of 1884. Susanna was the daughter of Jacob Ruth and Barbara Ruth, Nee Strohm and a sister of my husband, Peter B. Ruth.

During the month of August, in the year of 1884, our son, Walter Wesley, complained of being ill, and after two weeks of suffering, passed away peacefully on the twenty eighth.

It was rather a severe blow to lose both of these children in such a short period of time of a little over two months, but today I am thankful that it was the Lord's will that they be taken into Heaven, away from all the worry and suffering they would have to encounter in this world. The earthly remains of both our children, Albert and Walter Wesley, were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

1885

Daniel Haury and Elisa Dester were united in Holy Matrimony on the fourteenth day of June, in the year of 1885. This was his second marriage, his first was to Anna Strohm, sister of Barbara Strohm, the first wife of Peter B. Ruth. Another sister, Elisa Strohm, was married to John W. Ruth, a son of Reverend David Ruth and Katherine Strohm. Daniel Haury had thirteen children, seven from his first marriage and six from the second marriage. He named them: Richard Samuel, Edwin John, Albert Peter, Samuel David, Bertha Sarah, Stella Barbara, Carl F., Mary A., Laura E., Ella E., Irma D., John H. and Paul Gerhard. Four of them did not marry and two from the second marriage, Mary A., and John H., passed away when they were very young.

his passing, she married John Brandt. The parents of Elizabeth were Jacob Baer and Margaretha Gerlep. The children of the Brandts were:

Mary: mentioned above; born on October the eighth in the year of 1857.

Elizabeth: No date of birth: died in her 18th. year.

John: born 11-28-1861. Died 12-3-1862. Buried in the Baer Family Cemetery.

John: No date of birth. Married Mary Hornburg.

They were blest with seven children: Arthur, Lizzie, Hulda, Henry, Frieda, Hilda and Herbert. Hulda and Frieda passed away when they were very young.

1889

On the second day of October in the year of 1889, a daughter was born to Daniel B. Hirschler and Katie Hirschler, Nee Ruth. They named her Ruth B.. She was born in the Mission Field at Cantonement, Oklahoma.

1890

On the seventh day of June, in the year of 1890, Jacob Braundel passed away in Summerfield, Illinois at the age of forty eight years, two months and one day. He was married to Mary Dahlem, the daughter of Jacob Dahlem and Veronica Dahlem, Nee Ruth. He was a Cooper by trade. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

On the fourth of July in the year of 1890, father Christian Baer fell from the hay wagon, a heighth of fifteen feet, injuring himself internally. He passed away on the eighteenth day of July of the same year. Reverends Jacob E. Krehbiel, and Van Der Smissen had charge of the funeral service, the text of which was Phillipians, Chapter 1 verse 21. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

Christian Baer was born in Obersulzen, Palatinate on the fourteenth day of August in the year of 1820, came to America with his parents in the year of 1845 and settled on Ridge Prairie near O'Fallon, Illinois where his father bought a large farm. On the eighth of August in the year of 1853, he was united in Holy

Matrimony with Katherine Berger in Lee County, Iowa. Reverend Henry Ellenberger performed the ceremony in the home of Mr. Haffner. The couple made their home on his father's farm on Ridge Prairie and they lived there until in the year of 1865, at which time they moved onto the farm of 320 acres they purchased near and to the north of Summerfield, Illinois. Some time after this, they sold the farm and bought one nearer to the Church and School.

David Braundel, a son of Jacob Braundel and Mary Braundel, Nee Dahlem, was united in Holy Matrimony with Miss Elizabeth Herbstmann in Summerfield in the year of 1890.

The Missionary, Rudolph Petter, married Maria --- in the year of 1890.

1891

On February the twenty third in the year of 1891, Jacob Auernheimer passed away in his home at Summerfield, Illinois. He was married to Susanna Seitz who passed away at Summerfield on the seventeenth day of August, in the year of 1886. A daughter was born to them on 12-30-1871. She passed away on 9-30-1872. A son was born to them on 4-11-1885. He passed away on July 25, 1885. There were other children who grew to maturity and married. The earthly remains of Jacob, Susanna and the two children who are mentioned above were all lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

Jacob Henry Ruth and Mary Susanna Pletscher were united in Holy Matrimony in Summerfield, Illinois on the fifteenth day of March, in the year of 1891. The ceremony was performed by Reverend Van Der Smissen. The couple made their home in the Ruth Home east of the Ruth School. Henry Jacob Ruth was a son of David B. Ruth and Maria Berger. Mary Susanna Pletscher was a daughter of Michael Pletscher and Anna Hahn.

Jacob Henry Ruth and Mary Susanna Pletscher were second cousins. Jacob's grandfather, Jacob Ruth, and Mary Susanna's grandmother, Susanna Hahn, Nee Ruth, were brother and sister.

On the twentieth day of September, in the year of 1885, our son, Wesley Warren, was born to us.

1886

On the twelfth day of May in the year of 1886, my brother, Reverend John B. Baer, was married to Miss Jennie Roberts of Quakertown, Pennsylvania. They had two children, both of whom died in their infancy. He preached in the Ebenezer and Saint John's Church in Bluffton, Ohio for a while, then they went to Idaho, preached there for a while, from there, they went to Aberdeen, South Dakota, to preach in the new Church that the Congregation was building there.

1887

On the twenty ninth of March in the year of 1887, a son was born to Daniel B. Hirschler and his wife, Elizabeth, Nee Welty. Unfortunately, he passed away on the day of his birth.

Elizabeth Hirschler, Nee Welty, wife of Daniel B. Hirschler, passed away in her home at Summerfield on the second of April in the year of 1887. Her earthly remains and those of her son, who passed away on the twenty ninth day of March, were laid to rest in the same grave in the Summerfield Cemetery.

The grave stone of Elizabeth Hirschler, Nee Welty, bears the dates of her birth and death. Born on the twenty fourth day of July, in the year of 1849, and, Died on the second day of April in the year of 1887. It also bears the following inscription: A son, born and died on the twenty ninth day of March, 1887.

Daniel B. Hirschler and Miss Elizabeth Welty were united in Holy Matrimony on the twenty seventh day of December, in the year of 1883.

On the twenty fifth day of September, in the year of 1887, Henry Frederick Eicher and Miss Emily Marie Billmeyer were united in marriage in the Summerfield Mennonite Church. By special permission granted her by the Congregation, she was the first bride to wear a white bridal gown in a church wedding. Heretofore, all brides had to wear black in a church wedding.

1888

On the first day of February in the year of 1888, our son, Robert Roland, was born to us.

On the fourteenth of March, in the year of 1888, Miss Katie Ruth and Daniel B. Hirschler were united in marriage in Summerfield, Illinois. The bride was a daughter of David B. Ruth and Maria Berger Ruth.

On the twenty seventh of September in the year of 1888, Maria (Mary) Ruth, Nee Berger, passed away in her home near Summerfield, Illinois. She was married to David B. Ruth in a double wedding ceremony on the twelfth of September, in the year of 1858. There were ten children: Barbara, Katie, Jacob, David, Lizzie, John, Lydia, Samuel, Henry and Albert. The first and last child, Barbara and Albert, passed away in their infancy. The earthly remains of the two children and the mother, lie at rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

The second couple in the double wedding ceremony was, Mary Ruth, sister of David B., and John Eicher. They were married in the old Ruth Home in which the church services were held prior to the time that the church was built. The John Eichers lived in Summerfield in a home they themselves built. They were the parents of seven boys: John Edward, Henry Frederick, Jacob Albert, Peter David, Valentine Charles, David Christian and Adolph E..

On November the seventeenth, in the year of 1888, Daniel Baer, son of Daniel Baer and Katherine Baer, Nee Bergthold, passed away at Summerfield, Illinois. His earthly remains were laid to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois. He was born on December the twenty eighth, in the year of 1868.

On the thirtieth of December in the year of 1888, Mary Brandt, a daughter of John Brandt and Elizabeth Brandt, Nee Baer, was united in Holy Matrimony with Thomas Nathaniel Camp. The mother of Mary Brandt was Elizabeth Lsngenwalter, Nee Baer. Her first marriage was to Jacob Langenwalter who died of cholera on the twentieth of July in the year of 1852. Shortly after

On the sixteenth day of March in the year of 1891, a son was born to us. We named him Alfred Wallis.

Missionary Rudolph Petter and his wife went into the Mission Field in Indian Territory in the year of 1891. They had to give it up, on account of illness, after being there for a short period of six months.

1892

On January the twenty eighth in the year of 1892, my brother, Daniel C. Baer, and Mabel Weidlein, were united in Holy Matrimony. Mabel Weidlein was living in Moundridge, Kansas at the time.

On the eleventh of February, in the year of 1892, John L. Baer, a son of Jacob Baer and Anna Elizabeth Langenwalter, passed away in Mascoutah, Illinois. He was a School Teacher and taught at the Ruth School a number of years. His earthly remains lie at rest in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois.

On the thirteenth day of February, in the year of 1892, Van Der Smissen's wife passed away. Her maiden name was Knight. Her folks were living in Ohio. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois.

It was early in the year of 1892 that my husband, Peter B. Ruth, began to complain about his stomach. Doctor Comstock of Saint Louis, treated him for nine months. He had a tumor on his stomach and conditions grew worse and more complicated when he began having trouble with his liver. It was a lingering disease, but fortunately, it did not cause him very much pain or other discomfort. He was able to be up and around most of the time, being confined to his bed for only a short period of time toward the last. Having known that he would never recover, he prepared himself for the final call and awaited the time to be taken home into the hands of his Creator in Heaven.

On the twenty sixth of May, in the year of 1892, my sister, Katherine B. Baer, and Adolph Ledig, were united in Holy Matrimony. Sister Katherine was born on Ridge Prairie on February 27, 1865.

On the first of September in the year of 1892, my sister, Barbara M. Baer, and Henry E. Kliever, were united in Holy Matrimony in Halstead, Kansas.

On the tenty day of December in the year of 1892, Veronica Dahlem passed away in Summerfield, Illinois in the home of her parents at the age of thirty one years, seven months and sixteen days. Veronica, was a daughter of Gerhard Dahlem and Elizabeth Kroll. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois.

On December the twenty sixth in the year of 1892, John Brandt and Mary (Mairchen) Hornburg were united in Holy Matrimony.

1893

On the ninth day of January, in the year of 1893, my husband, Peter B. Ruth, passed away very peaceful and calm at ten o'clock. It was the anniversary date of the passing of his father, Jacob Ruth, who passed away at Harreszell, Upper Bavaria on that day in the year of 1848. The date if interment was the twelfth, which was also the anniversary date of the interment of his father in Eichstock, Upper Bavaria. Peter B. Ruth was fifty two years, eleven months and thirteen days old at the time of passing. His passing left me with a heavy heart and much sorrow, but my faith in God helped me to bear my cross and burden. The text of the funeral service was Psalm twenty three, which was my husband's favorite Psalm. Pastor Meyer of the Evangelical Church read First Corinthians 15, verses 35 to 38 and the prayer was given by Pastor Mehle of the Methodist Church. Peter B. Ruth was very active in the Summerfield Mennonite Church, having been the Song Leader for a number of years. He was loved and trusted by everyone who knew him. Peter B. Ruth was baptized and received into the Church by his Uncle, Reverend David Ruth. His earthly remains lie at rest in the Summerfield Cemetery. His first marriage was to Barbara Strohm, his first cousin, the daughter of Peter Strohm and Barbara Schowalter.

Peter B. Ruth and Barbara Strohm, were married in the spring of the year of 1867. Barbara was born on the twenty first day of August, in the year of 1884, and passed away on the twenty seventh of June in the year of 1875. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery. Four children were born to this union. A daughter (No name); Augusta; Oscar and Bertha. The first two children, passed away when they were very young.

The funeral Service of Peter B. Ruth:

At the house, School Teacher Louis Koch
and his pupils sang the song:

"They are not Lost"
Why do we mourn? They are not Lost.
Beyond the river, they have crossed,
Lie Worlds Sublime, Lie Worlds Sublime.
And on that bright Celestial Shore,
Our Dear ones wait the coming o'er,
Of those who have not passed the tide,
But linger on the other side,
A little while, a little while.

Why do we weep? Oh never there,
Shall sorrow come or tears or care.
Or death fell shade, Or death fell shade.
Before the shining throne, confessed by Christ,
To be his own, they sing enrobed,
In Spotless white, Crowns they wear,
Whose Golden Light shall never fade,
Shall never fade.

After this song was ended, preacher Meyer, of the Evangelical Church, read verses 1 to 10 from Chapter five of Second Romans from the Holy Bible.

At the Church they sang songs number 424 and 377, verses, one, five, and nine. Then preacher Meyer read 1st. Corinthians, Chapter 15, verses 35 to 38, after

which, preacher Mehle, of the Methodist Church, gave the prayer. Then they sang songs number 463 and 404, verses one to seven.

The sermon was taken from the 23rd. Psalm, verses one to four.

This Psalm, even though it was written many years ago, applies itself to our present day true devotion not to expect too much, and yet, if we give this the proper consideration, we can say that things are now going along fairly good for us.

This was our beloved brother's favorite Psalm. It proves out what he had practiced in his daily life. The Lord is my Shepherd: I shall not want. There was nothing that distressed our worthy brother, the Lord led him through many sad and happy hours and he took it all calmly as he traveled down life's pathway. He knew, and loved the green pastures, the Holy word of God and the fresh water of the Holy Ghost and, as he traveled through the dark valley, into the shadow of death, he had no fear of evil, because he knew that the Lord was by his side. He kept a strogn hand grip on him, even though he was not able to see him, but the Lord saw and watched over him. Our dear brother placed his trust and faith in the Lord.

How different is the glimpse of Christ we have at the hour of one's death then that of viewing mankind on this earth. The phrase: "The Lord is my Shepherd" was the solace and consolation of our brother. Likewise, let the Lord be your Shepherd and nothing will ever distress you. When our brother said: "I have a desire to depart this earth and be with Christ", the decision was not due to his suffering, but his heart felt love for his Creator in Heaven. This great love was strengthened by the fact, that God helped him to carry his cross of sickness and pain. His suffering was made lighter and the time made to seem very much shorter. "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want" is also a comfort and consolation to you, the grieving widow, and to you, the grieving children.

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.

Yes, my bereaved ones, the Lord, is your Shepherd and he will not forsake you nor neglect you. He will lead you upon the paths of righteousness and he will also lead you through the dark paths in the valley, even though you have not been summoned to answer the last call of death or witnessed the shadow of death.

Yes, after a fall into misery, or during a storm, you can well recognize the consolation and mercy of God immediately. The pain and grief of parting stays even though we are aware that we will meet again in the here-after. The loneliness, the emptiness, it is so grieving, but surely in this hour of lamentation, the best comfort known is "The Lord is my Shepherd".

Yes, we know that our loved one has been taken up into the hands of God. We also know that he is happy and despite the fact that we are in mourning, we are happy too, knowing that he has been spared the pain, and the misery that he suffered here on this earth.

Through the love of God and our love for our dear one, who has gone beyond, we know that he is resting in peace, and we are happy, because of our knowledge of it. The time we spend here on this earth, as long as we are advancing into the future, whether of long or short duration, will seem much shorter, if we but believe in the Lord and keep his trust and faith.

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want, Amen.

Peter B. Ruth, born on January the twenty second, in the year of 1840, at Harreszell, Upper Bavaria, a son of Jacob Ruth and Barbara Strohm, passed away on the ninth day of January, in the year of 1893 at the age of fifty two years, eleven months and thirteen days. On the third day of September, in the year of 1876, he was married a second time, to Mary E. Baer, daughter of Christian Baer and Katherine Berger.

Five children, two daughters from the first union and three sons from the second union preceded him in death. Survivors were: His widow, Mary E. Ruth, Nee

Baer, and children: Oscar Peter, Bertha, Gustav W., Harry Peter, Wesley Warren, Robert Roland and Alfred Wallis.

Then song number 588, verses 1, 3 and 5, and song number 577, verses 1 and 4 were sung at the closing of the service, after which the funeral cortege proceeded to the Summerfield Cemetery, where his earthly remains were lain to rest.

At the Cemetery they sang song number 588, verses 1, 4, 6, 7 and 9, then song number 527, verses 1, 4, and 6. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

(The history gives no record of who preached this funeral service. It might have been either, Reverend Jacob E. Krehbiel of Reverend Carl Van Der Smissen.)

(All of the songs that were sung, were taken from the old Mennonite Hymnal in use at that time. It has been replaced by a newer edition. The titles and the song numbers do not coincide with one another. So if anyone wishes to check back on the song titles, they must locate one of the old hymnals.)

Peter B. Ruth was baptized and received into the Church, by his Uncle, the Reverend David Ruth. Peter was very active in the Summerfield Mennonite Church, having been their song leader for a number of years.

On the eighteenth day of May in the year of 1893, Miss Barbara R. Krehbiel and Henry C. Hornburg, were united in Holy Matrimony in Summerfield, Illinois. Barbara R. was the daughter of Jacob E. Krehbiel and Katherine Krehbiel, Nee Ruth. The couple made their home in Saint Louis, Missouri for twenty six years.

On June the eighteenth, in the year of 1893, Miss Elizabeth (Lizzie) Ruth and Reverend Carl H. A. Van Der Smissen were united in Holy Matrimony in Summerfield, Illinois. This was Reverend Van Der Smissen's second marriage, his first marriage was to Miss Mary E. Knight, who passed away in Summerfield, Illinois on the thirteenth of February, in the year of 1892.

On the fourteenth day of September in the year of 1893, Jacob Albert Eicher and Ida Kurz, were united in Holy Matrimony in Trenton, Illinois. Jacob Albert Eicher was a son of John Eicher and Mary Eicher, Nee Ruth. Ida Kurz, was a daughter of Ferdinand Kurz and Katherine Kurz, Nee Ehninger.

1894

On June the fourteenth in the year of 1894, Peter David Eicher and Alvina Bauchenz were united in Holy Matrimony in Trenton, Illinois. He was a son of John Eicher and Mary Eicher, Nee Ruth and Alvina Bauchenz was a sister of Marie Katherine Bauchenz who married Henry (Squire) Ruth, and, Philip Bauchenz, the Wagon Maker in Summerfield, Illinois for many years.

On November the fourth in the year of 1894, David Samuel Ruth and Barbara Katherine Baer, were united in Holy Matrimony in Summerfield, Illinois. David S. Ruth was a son of David B. Ruth and Maria Berger and Barbara Katherine Baer, was a daughter of Jacob Baer and Anna Elizabeth Langenwalter. The couple lived in the old Ruth Home north of Summerfield, Illinois for many years.

On December the twenty third in the year of 1894, Bertha Ruth was united in Holy Matrimony with Henry G. Ledig in the Summerfield Mennonite Church. On the twenty seventh, they left for Kansas to visit friends and relatives in that area. After a short visit they continued on to Cugamonga, California where they had decided to make their home.

During the year of 1894, my sister Katherine, her husband and daughter Olga, went to California to make their home. My sister was married to Adolph Ledig.

1895

On the fifteenth day of September, in the year of 1895, Anna Katherine Krehbiel and Edward Linscheid, were married in the Mennonite Church in Moundridge, Kansas. Mr. Linscheid was the manager of a Portrait Studio in St. Louis, Missouri for a number of years. He was also a good Mennonite Artist.

On the twenty second day of September in the year of 1895, Katie Ruth Hirschler and John H. Von Steen, were united in marriage in Summerfield, Illinois. It was the second marriage for both Katie Ruth and John H. Von Steen. John H. Von Steen's first marriage was in 1892 to Miss Mary McKibben of Fish Lake, Indiana. She passed away in 1893. Katie Ruth's first marriage was to Daniel B. Hirschler. They were married on the fourteenth of March, in the year of 1888. He passed away on the sixth of September, in the year of 1890.

The couple made their home in Beatrice, Nebraska, where Mr. Von Steen established the Von Steen Cement, Lumber and Coal Company. It became a very profitable Business undertaking.

On the fifteenth of October, in the year of 1895, Elizabeth Glaesser (Mrs. Carl Glaesser), passed away at Summerfield, Illinois. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

On the sixteenth of October, in the year of 1895, Mary Berger, daughter of Henry Berger and Mary Faeth was united in marriage with John Baer, son of Daniel Baer and Katherine Baer, Nee Bergthold.

1896

On the twenty ninth day of January in the year of 1896, Reverend Jacob E. Krehbiel, passed away in his home in Summerfield, Illinois. He was the minister of the Summerfield Congregation for many years. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois.

On the ninth of April, in the year of 1896, Anna Ledig, Nee Hirschler, passed away peacefully, in her home in Cugamonga, California. She had Tuberculosis.

On the fourteenth of April, in the year of 1896, Harry Dahlem came here from Chicago and stayed with his brother David Dahlem. He had been staying at the home of John W. Ruth in Pullman, Illinois where John W. Ruth was working in the Pullman Car Shops.

On the eleventh day of June, in the year of 1896, Tina Ledig passed away at her home in Cugamonga.

1897

On the seventeenth of August in the year of 1897, John H. Haury, passed away in Halstead, Kansas. John was born on January the seventh in the year of 1895. He was the son of Daniel Haury and Elizabeth Haury, Nee Dester. She was Daniel Haury's second wife, his first wife was Anna Strohm, sister of Barbara Strohm who was the first wife of Peter B. Ruth.

On December the eighth in the year of 1897, Marie Schowalter was born. She lived six hours and passed away on the same day. She was the daughter of Jacob Leisy Schowalter and Elizabeth Schowalter, Nee Ruth. Mrs. Schowalter was a daughter of Johannes Ruth and Elizabeth Dettweiler.

1898

On January the seventeenth, in the year of 1898, Mary Krehbiel, a daughter of Rev. Jacob E. Krehbiel and Katherine Krehbiel, Nee Ruth, passed away in the home of her parents. Mary was born on the eighteenth of October, in the year of 1863. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

On April the thirteenth, in the year of 1898, Ben Baer was united in marriage with Mattie Harpstrite. Ben Baer was a son of Daniel Baer and Katherine Baer, Nee Bergthold. The couple had six children: Kathryn, Herbert, Russell, Stanley, Howard and Malcolm.

On the ninth of June in the year of 1898, Anna C. Berger passed away at Summerfield, Illinois. She was a daughter of Jacob E. Berger and Elizabeth Berger, Nee Dahlem, born in 1887. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

In the year of 1898, I made a trip to Kansas with my sons, Robert and Alfred. Robert was eleven years old and Alfred was seven. We stayed there for seven weeks. Dr. Haury's cramps are not cured but they are not as bad as they used to be, but later on they got worse as the days went by. Today is the seventh week that I am staying with Barbara. We were over to the home of Anna Vogt, twice. Cousin John Ruth came over

to Kansas from Beatrice and went along home with us. While we were visiting in Kansas, Selma Little Tree, our adopted daughter and Clara Auernheimer took care of the housework in our home.

1899

On the eleventh day of May, in the year of 1899, Albert E. Baer and Lydia Auernheimer, were united in Holy Matrimony at Summerfield, Illinois.

Anna Berger passed away at the home of her grandparents, the Gerhard Dahlems, on the ninth of June, in the year of 1899. She contracted Diphtheria.

In October of the year of 1899, my sister Barbara was here with her family to pay us a visit. She came with her two children, Alida and Earl.

On the sixteenth of October, in the year of 1899, John Brandt passed away at Summerfield, Illinois.

In the year of 1899, at the age of twenty seven years, my son Oscar Peter Ruth, enlisted in the Navy to serve his country.

1900

On the twenty eighth day of January, in the year of 1900, David B. Ruth passed away in his home north of Summerfield, Illinois. He was a son of Jacob Ruth and Barbara Strohm. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

On the sixteenth day of February, in the year of 1900, we had a terrible blizzard.

On the thirtieth day of September, in the year of 1900, Henry A. Ruth and Anna Susan Auernheimer were united in Holy Matrimony in Summerfield, Illinois.

The couple lived in the Ruth home in which church services were held before the Church was built.

1901

On the twelfth day of January in the year of 1901 Elizabeth Dahlem, Nee Kroll, passed away at her home in Summerfield. Interment of her earthly remains was in the Summerfield Cemetery on the fifteenth.

She was the wife of Gerhard Dahlem, son of Jacob Dahlem and Veronica Ruth.

On the twenty eighth day of January, in the year of 1901, Grandma Van Der Smissen, mother of Carl H. A., passed away in Summerfield, Illinois. Interment was in the Summerfield Cemetery.

On the sixth day of August, in the year of 1901, Mary Bergthold, Nee Lauer, passed away. She was the daughter of Peter Lauer and Anna Ruth Pletscher. She was born on the twenty second of August, in the year of 1871. She was married to Jacob Bergthold and they lived in the Ruth Home east of the Ruth School for a few years.

On the twenty seventh of September in the year of 1901, Tillie Schoemacher, Emma Hirstein, Selma Weber and Robert Ruth, were baptized and received into the Summerfield Mennonite Church.

On the seventh day of October in the year of 1901, our mother came into our home. She remained here for the rest of her life. She sold 160 acres of her farm to William Hageman for \$90.00 per acre. Later on she sold the north 70 acres of the remaining land to Ben Baer. Brother Christian, bought 90 acres and sold it to Jacob Baer on a later date.

1902

During the month of January, in the year of 1902, Louis Schoemacher's wife passed away in her home in New Baden, Illinois.

On the twenty second day of February, in the year of 1902, Jacob Baer and Myrthe Pletscher were united in Holy Matrimony. Four children were born to them: Donald Willis, Edna Myrthe, Lester and Orville. They made their home two miles south of Summerfield. This place had two houses on it, they lived in one house, and Jacob's brother Daniel, lived in the other.

On the fourteenth day of February, in the year of 1902, Philip Heer and Clara Auernheimer were united in Holy Matrimony at Summerfield, Illinois.

On the ninth of April in the year of 1902, Albert Baer, moved to the State of Kansas with his wife and daughter, Alice.

On the ninth day of May in the year of 1902, Selma Little Tree, passed away in the home of her parents. She was a Cheyenne Arapahoe Indian girl born in then Indian Territory, of which the State of Oklahoma was a part, in the year of 1881 and was adopted by Peter B. Ruth and Mary E. Ruth, Nee Baer, during the year of 1885 at the age of four years. She went to Public and Sunday School and Church Services. She confessed her faith in God, was baptized and received into the Church by Reverend Carl H. A. Van Der Smissen. Selma contracted Consumption and was ill for two years before she passed away. Reverend Van Der Smissen held the funeral service. The text was Romans 15 verses 9 to 14. Her earthly remains were laid to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois.

On the twenty eighth day of June, in the year of 1902, John Edward Ruth and Anna Dueck were united in Holy Matrimony in Saint Louis, Missouri. They moved to Granite City, Illinois where they made their home for several years. Mr. Ruth, was the Master Mechanic for National Enameling and Stamping Company.

On the fifteenth day of September, in the year of 1902, Mary Eicher, Nee Ruth, passed away in her home in Summerfield, Illinois. She was the wife of John Eicher. Her earthly remains were laid to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois.

On the sixteenth of December, in the year of 1902, Mary R. Stauffer, Nee Haury, passed away in her home in Saint Louis, Missouri. Her earthly remains were laid to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

1903

David Christian Eicher passed away in his home in Warrenton, Missouri on the thirtieth day of March in the year of 1903. David Christian was a Photographer in Lebanon, Illinois before he moved to Warrenton to follow the vocation of Grocery Salesman. His earthly remains were interred in the Cemetery at Warrenton, Missouri on the first day of April. He contracted a case of Typhoid Fever and succumbed to it.

On the ninth day of November, in the year of 1903, Jacob E. Baer, the son of Jacob Baer and Margaretha Gerlep, passed away in his home. He was born on May the twenty ninth in the year of 1818, in Obersulzen, Palatinate. He migrated to America with his parents in the year of 1845. They settled on Ridge Prairie, a little west of O'Fallon, Illinois. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

1904

On the sixth day of May, in the year of 1904, Anna Elizabeth Baer, Nee Langenwalter, the widow of Jacob E. Baer, passed away. She was born on the seventh day of January, in the year of 1830. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

The year of 1904 was the year of the World's Fair in Saint Louis, Missouri. Many of our relatives and friends, came here from their homes in various parts of the Country to see the Fair, and paid us a visit, while they were here. Many of them stayed with their relatives and friends near Summerfield and travelled back and forth, to and from the Fair. The first ones to arrive were Lizzie Ewert with her little daughter Elma and her son Carl. They came from their home in Canada. Katie Ledig, Nee Baer, came from California. She brought the following children with her: Adolph, Pearl, Earl and the little sickly Esther, and stayed with us for five weeks. My brother John and his wife Jennie, came and stayed with us for four weeks. Then Christian Baer and his wife Katherine, came from the State of Oklahoma with their three children: Esther, Herbert and Edgar, and stayed for two weeks. Albert E. Baer, came from Kansas with his wife and daughter Alice and stayed for a short time. My sister Barbara and her family came during this time. Daniel C. Baer came along with them. Barbara's daughter, Carol, was quite small at the time. Oscar P. Ruth and his wife, Abbie, came from Oklahoma to see the Fair, then they stayed with us for a long pleasant visit. The Daniel F. Rissers, came in October and stayed a short time.

Cousin Daniel Poth, was the last one to visit with us at the time of the World's Fair in the year of 1904.

Insertion: By Albert John Ruth.

An excerpt from a letter written by Mrs. Winifred Moore, Nee Rowland, dated March 31, 1962, describing an event in connection with the World's Fair in 1904.

I was a young woman who happened to be working at the time of the World's Fair. I was living in Little River, Kansas at the time and they chose me as their Representative to go to the Fair. My mother had some close relatives, the Eichers, who lived in the area. There were three families who lived close by, Peter, Henry and Valentine. They looked after me and I had a very lovely time, and believe me, I had never been away from Little River, Kansas. My Aunt Anna Embick went to see the Fair too, she came during the time I happened to be there. I often wondered how they felt when their Kansas relatives were coming to see them. They were very wonderful and hospitable to me and I hope that I conducted myself properly. (I sometimes wonder) They were all well to do and had things very nice in their homes. Even though I had never had any previous experience in traveling, I tried not to act too green. That is a long way back, but, I am surely very happy for having had the pleasure of knowing my relatives, and deeply grateful to the town of Little River, Kansas, for having sent me to the Fair.

I can still remember how I was dressed and that I was to wear a flower. I believe, that it was to be a red one so they would know what and who to look for, but they had no trouble spotting me, I am sure that there was no one else in the group, that looked more scared or lost than I did at the time. This event is certainly a wonderful memory for me to recall to my mind in these later years. Love, Winnie.

Winifred Rowland was a daughter of Thomas Rowland and Emma A. Ruth. She was the granddaughter of Henry (Squire) Ruth and Marie Katherine Bauchenz. Her Aunt Anna Embick was a sister of Winifred's mother.

There probably were many more incidents like this one, that occurred during the World's Fair in 1904. I can recall that my parents and other relatives who were their age, used to talk about who stayed where, and with whom, whenever this subject arose. It would be interesting to read a book written on the subject, "Reminiscence of the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904."

Back to the Record.

1905

On February the twenty sixth in the year of 1905, Gerhard Dahlem passed away in Summerfield, Illinois. He was a son of Jacob Dahlem and Veronica Ruth. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois.

On the fifth of April, in the year of 1905, Daniel Baer, the son of Jacob Baer and Margaretha Baer, Nee Gerlep, passed away in his home. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

On the twenty third of July, in the year of 1905, Susan M. Ruth passed away in the home of her sister, Mrs. Jacob Schowalter, in Upland, California at the age of sixty two years, two months and three days. She was born in Eichstock, Upper Bavaria on May the twentieth in the year of 1843. In the year of 1852, she came to America with her parents and settled in Lee County, Iowa, where she joined the Church. In the year of 1855, her father passed away on the Franklin Prairie. The family moved to Summerfield in the year of 1867, and eight years later, they moved to Kansas, where her mother passed away in the year of 1888. In March of the year of 1905, she arrived in Upland. She was taken ill soon thereafter and the Doctor said it was liver trouble and due to it's advanced stage, it was an affliction she had for a very long time.

Her main interest in life, was the welfare of the Church and Mission Work. Beloved wherever she went, She was "Tante Sannchen" to all. She made two trips to the old Home in Bavaria and was always willing to talk about her traveling experiences.

Funeral services were held in the Upland Church on the twenty fourth, Reverend M. M. Horsch spoke in German, from the text, Genesis 24:56 and brother James E. Sprunger in English, from Psalm 37:5. Her brother, Henry, accompanied the body to Halstead, Kansas where it was lain to rest in the Halstead Cemetery.

On the ninth day of August, in the year of 1905, Katherine Vogt, Nee Schowalter, wife of Gerhard Vogt of Summerfield, Illinois, passed away in their home. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois.

On the twenty eighth day of August, in the year of 1905, Wesley went to Newton, Kansas to attend Bethel College.

On October the twenty eighth, in the year of 1905, Christina Wuerz, Nee Vogt, passed away. She was the widow of Michael Wuerz who passed away on the seventeenth of November, in the year of 1901. The earthly remains of both, Christina and Michael, were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

1906

On February the second, in the year of 1906, Edna S. Pletscher passed away in the home of her parents. She contracted consumption. She was the daughter of Michael Pletscher and Barbara Eymann, who lived near Trenton, Illinois. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

On the twenty seventh day of February, in the year of 1906, Daniel T. Eymann passed away in his home in Reedley, California.

On the third of May, in the year of 1906, Michael Pletscher passed away. He developed blood poisoning from being bitten by a hog. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

As soon as school was closed in this year, Wesley went to Geary, Oklahoma, to visit his brother Oscar. He worked in Geary until the month of September and then went to Quincy, Illinois to attend Gem Business College to learn the art of Book-Keeping.

On the thirtieth of October, in the year of 1906, the twins, Helen and Hazel, were born to Oscar Peter Ruth and Abigail Ruth, Nee Ringelman.

On the seventeenth day of December, in the year of 1906, Hazel Ruth passed away in Geary, Oklahoma. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Cemetery at Geary, Oklahoma.

Gerhard Ledig and his family, moved to Cugamonga, California during the year of 1906.

1907

On the sixteenth of January, in the year of 1907, Gustav W. Ruth and Anna B. Hirstein were married in Summerfield, Illinois. Now, I was all alone with the children and the trouble and worry of taking care of them was not an easy task. Harry's sickness is still giving him trouble, and he does not seem to improve. He is unable to go anywhere by himself, so he has to stay at home. Our Heavenly Father knows that Harry's illness can be cured and we know that at last, every thing will be carried out wonderfully. We should not lose faith when things appear to be unbearable. What I will do now is something that I do not know at the present time. I will leave it all in God's hands.

On the twenty third day of February, in the year of 1907, Susanna Hahn, Nee Ruth, passed away in the old Ruth Home east of the school. She reached an age of ninety one years, five months and eight days. For the last several years of her life, she made her home in the Ruth home, along with her geanddaughter, Mary Susanna Ruth, Nee Pletscher, wife of Jacob H. Ruth. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois.

(Susanna Hahn, Nee Ruth, was the only great grand parent that I had the privelege to know. I can still picture her in my mind, sitting in her rocking chair on the front porch of our home, during the day time. I can also picture her in her cute little night cap, common in those days, she used to place on her head, before retiring for the night. Per Albert J. Ruth.)

In the month of April, in the year of 1907, Wesley got a job with the Remington Typewriter Company. The Gem Business College helped him get the job.

During the months of August and September, in the year of 1907, Sister Barbara and her husband, Henry, (Kliwer) and their children: Alida M., Earl A., and Cecil, came to our house and stayed for four weeks.

Near the end of October, in the year of 1907, John Eicher, his wife, Emma, Nee Mallman, and I, Mary E. Ruth, took a trip to Kansas and Oklahoma. The first eight nights were spent in Halstead, then we went to Oklahoma, stopping first at Deer Creek to visit with brother Christian and then we went on to Enid, (Here we had to sneak around) and then on Saturday evening we arrived at Oscar's place in Geary, where we stayed for ten days. Here we visited with the Henry Ringelmans, grandfather Ringelman who lived near Geary and the Reverend Jacob Krehbiel family. At Geary, Oscar took us around in the country, to visit with friends and relatives. We spent an entire day at the farm of brothers John and Jacob Horsch. From here we went to Walter and Gideon Lehmann, who lived west of Geary, On Sunday, they celebrated "Lord's Supper" in church at Geary, in which I participated. On Monday we went to Perry to visit with John W. Ruth, Peter B. Ruth's nephew, and also brother-in-law Henry Ruth, who made his home with him. They lived nine miles from Perry. They have a very beautiful home in Oklahoma. We were driving through valleys, over hills and stones, but everything worked out wonderfully well. On Friday we left Perry and went back to Deer Creek, where we went to visit with brother Christian again. From here, we went to Halstead, Kansas and arrived there on Sunday night about midnight. In Halstead we visited with my brother Daniel Baer, then we went to Garden Township and visited with Jacob Vogt. He was so friendly and took us to the Bachmanns, John Ruths, Henry G. Ruths and the Auernheimers. (Mollie). On Thanksgiving Day we were in the Garden (Township) Church where Samuel

Baumgartner and Elizabeth Berger were married. Mrs. Wulf's mother passed away here. Then Jacob Vogt took us back to Halstead, where we visited Barbara (Henry Kliewer), then to Enterprize, Kansas, about sixty or seventy miles from Halstead, to visit with Albert E. Baer. Brother Albert had a furniture store here, but went bankrupt in the year of 1908. After that, they moved onto a farm near Halstead where his wife Lydia was ill for a long time, but it should be better for her now.

The John Brandt family moved to California in the year of 1907.

1908

During the month of January, in the year of 1908, Robert Roland Ruth visited with his Aunt Barbara and family and stayed there for a few weeks. Barbara was living at Halstead, Kansas at the time.

On the fourth of February, in the year of 1908, Daniel Risser passed away. He was the school teacher in Summerfield, Illinois for a long time. He married Maria (Mary) Strohm in the year of 1868. Maria was a sister of Barbara Strohm, the first wife of Peter B. Ruth, and of Anna Strohm, first wife of Daniel Haury.

On the twenty second day of September, in the year of 1908, Naomi Berger was born. She was the daughter of Andrew Berger and Elizabeth Berger, Nee Beutler.

On the twenty third day of December, in the year of 1908, David Lauer passed away. He was the son of Peter Lauer and Anna Ruth Pletscher Lauer, who lived near the Cemetery. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

1909

During the month of January, in the year of 1909, Alfred W. Ruth and Samuel Hirstein took a trip up to Champaign, Illinois, and stayed for two weeks.

From the twenty ninth, to the thirty first day of January, in the year of 1909, we had some very strong winds. My brother John and his wife Jennie were here to visit us at the time and stayed for eight days.

On the second day of May, in the year of 1909, the Reverend Christian Krehbiel passed away in his home near Halstead, Kansas. He reached the age of seventy two years, six months and fourteen days. He was born in Weierhof, Palatinate on the eighteenth day of the month of October, in the year of 1832. He was married to Susanna Ruth, daughter of Reverend David Ruth and Katherine Strohm. In the year of 1864 he was elected as preacher of the Summerfield Congregation.

In the year of 1879, he took up his duties as the preacher of the newly formed Congregation in Kansas. Quite a few of the Summerfielders had already moved to Kansas at this time.

On the thirtieth day of April, in the year of 1909, he preached his last sermon in Halstead. At noon on this day, he had a stroke, from which he never fully recovered. On April the twenty eighth, a storm arose accompanied by strogn winds that blew the barn doors open and shut. He made an effort to close one, and in the attempt to do so, was struck by it, injuring him so severely that he passed away five days later. His earthly remains lie at rest in the Halstead Cemetery at Halstead, Kansas.

Christian H. Baer and his family moved from their home in Deer Creek, Oklahoma, to Upland, California during the month of June, in the year of 1909. They made their home near Upland, where he purchased some land a short time after he moved there.

On the second day of June, in the year of 1909, my Cousin Katherine Hirstein, Nee Baer, and her husband John Hirstein, and I, Mary E. Ruth, Nee Baer, went to see the Baer Family Cemetery on Ridge Prairie, near O'Fallon, Illinois. It is located on land that used to be Grandfather Jacob Baer's farm. We found everything in very poor condition. There was no fence and most of the stones were broken and only short pieces of them were sticking in the ground. We searched for the grave of John Brandt, it was hardly recognizable because only a piece of the grave stone remains.

A roster of those buried in this Cemetery:
 Jacob Baer: No date of birth. Died in 1857.
 Margaretha Baer, Nee Gerlep: Born in Obersulzen,
 Palatinate, on 8-24-1795. Died 7-20-1852.
 Johannes Baer: Born 2-7-1821. Died 7-20-1852.
 Buried in the same grave with his mother.
 Jacob Langenwaller: Born 7-7-1823. Died 7-20-1852.
 Son, J. Langenwaller: Born 9-8-1850. Died 7-25-1852.
 Elizabeth Baer: Died 7-22-1852.
 Her child, Eliza: Born 4-4-1852. Died 7-25-1852.
 All of those listed above, with the exception of
 Jacob Baer, died of cholera.
 Elizabeth Kinkel Berger: Died 8-17-1856. No stone.
 John Brandt: Born 11-28-1861. Died 12-3-1862.
 Mrs. Henry Miller, Nee Dahlem. Died 9-18-1856.
 Mrs. Bittel.
 Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Bittel have no stone.

If anyone will ever take enough interest in this Cemetery, to do something about it's condition, is a moot question. This farm has been in other hands for a long time already. Grandfather Jacob Baer's grave, has no grave stone. I could not find any records of the date of his birth, nor, any of the month and day of his passing.

The earthly remains of the people interred in the Baer Family Cemetery, rest in sacred ground and await the resurrection morning. Thank God for this blessed hope and consolation.

In August of the year of 1909, Robert Roland Ruth went to Minnesota and worked there for a while, then came back home in the latter part of September.

1910

On the twenty seventh of January, in the year of 1910, a son was born to Gustav W. Ruth and Anna B. Ruth, Nee Hirstein. They named him, Leroy Clarence.

On March the twentieth, in the year of 1910, David Pletscher, a son of Michael Pletscher and Anna Hahn. passed away in the Jefferson Hospital in Saint Louis

following a second operation on his stomach. For the last several years of his life he made his home with his sister, Mary Susanna, wife of Jacob H. Ruth. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery on the twenty third. He reached the age of thirty eight years. The pall bearers were: Otto and John Baer, Samuel and Peter Berger, Samuel Hirstein and Robert Roland Ruth.

On the twenty seventh day of March, we celebrated "Lord's Supper" in our church.

On the twenty eighth day of March, in the year of 1910, Professor C. W. Wedel passed away. He was the Professor at Bethel College in North Newton, Kansas. He was in the pulpit in the church at Bethel College for the last time on Palm Sunday. He had to stop his sermon because he became very sick from an attack of pneumonia. He passed away after being sick for eight days. He reached the age of forty nine years and ten months. He was born in Russia on the twelfth of May, in the year of 1861. Two sons, Theodore and Oswald, and a daughter Hilda, survived him. His wife, Susie, Nee Richert, preceded him in death. His earthly remains were lain to rest on the thirty first. Funeral services were conducted by the Reverends H. Voth and Gustav Harder.

On March the thirtieth, in the year of 1910, Mrs. Mary Camp, my son Robert Roland Ruth, and I, Mary E. Ruth, Nee Baer, went over to Granite City, Illinois, to visit with my Cousin John Edward Ruth and family. We came back home again on the following day.

On the fourteenth of April, we had several thunder storms accompanied by heavy rains. In the evening we had some more rain, accompanied by a bad hail storm.

On the fifteenth of April, in the year of 1910, we had another severe thunderstorm accompanied by a lot of wind and rain.

On the nineteenth of April, in the year of 1910, George Ringelman passed away in Geary, Oklahoma. He was born in Germany on the seventeenth day of March,

Although it was quite hot and dusty, despite the fact that we had three rain storms, we found time to do quite a bit of visiting in this area.

The third day of September, of the year of 1910, was the thirty fourth year, that I and Peter B. Ruth were married.

On the twenty fifth day of October, in the year of 1910, Christina Morlock, passed away in New Memphis, Illinois. She was a daughter of Michael Kraemer. Her mother was a cousin of Barbara Strohm Ruth Kraemer. Christina's sister, Anna Schmitt, passed away in the State of Missouri in the year of 1892. Grandma Gross passed away in the year of 1922. She was a sister of Mrs. Morlock.

On the twenty fourth day of November, in the year of 1910, Edna Baer, an infant daughter of Jacob Baer and Myrthe Baer, Nee Pletscher, passed away in their home at the age of one year, three months and twenty three days. She had a case of Diptheria. Her earthly remains were interred in the Summerfield Cemetery.

The eleventh day of December, in the year of 1910, was the last time we had church services in the old Church located on the hill by Aunheisers.

On the eleventh of December, my son Wesley and I, drove over to Carlyle, Illinois to visit with George Zestrig, who used to be an old neighbor of ours.

On the eighteenth day of December, in the year of 1910, we dedicated our new church in Summerfield. We bought it from the English Methodists and remodelled it. Reverends Poth of the Evangelical Church, Schutz of the Methodist Church, and Van Der Smissen, of our Church, took part in the dedication ceremony. We had a very large attendance in church on this day.

On December the twenty sixth, in the year of 1910, the Deaconess Home, was dedicated in Newton, Kansas. This home was built as a Memorial of the husband of Mrs. Bernard Warkentin, who lost his life in Bieruth, Russia in the year of 190-. He was shot while on the tour of Russia.

On the twenty sixth day of December, in the year of 1910, Pastor Otto Funke, who was for a long time, a saver of souls, and, an author, passed away in his home in the City of Bremen, Germany. He was born in Germany, in the year of 1836.

The winter of the year of 1910, was a very severe and cold one, most of the crops were frozen.

1911

On January the eighteenth, in the year of 1911, Jacob E. Schmitt, passed away in Halstead, Kansas at the age of sixty five years. He was survived by his widow, cousin Elizabeth Schmitt, Nee Baer, one son, Daniel, who married Adah Pleasant, three daughters, Selma Krehbiel, Susie Haury and Katie Schmitt. Mr. Jacob E. Schmitt suffered from diabetes for several years before he passed away.

On the twenty seventh day of January, in the year of 1911, the weather was very warm with a net result that we had a very severe storm during the night. It has been much warmer than usual for this time of the year. The wheat is still so very small.

On January the thirty first, in the year of 1911, Rudolph Pletscher passed away on the operating table while being operated on for appendicitis. He reached the age of twenty four years and four months. He was the son of Michael Pletscher and Barbara Eymann. His earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois.

On the first day of February, in the year of 1911, the weather was so very warm that we had to open the windows and doors to be comfortable. This day is the anniversary date of my son Robert's birthday.

On the fifteenth of February, my son Wesley was at our home to pay us a visit. In the evening, we had a very severe storm, with a lot of rain. The lightning hit the Capital Building in Jefferson City, Missouri and burned it to the ground.

On the eighteenth day of February, we had another rain storm with quite a bit of rain.

in the year of 1828. He came to America in the year of 1862, settled in Sommerville, New York, then went to Plumbsteadville, Pennsylvania for a while. He was married to Louise Miller. They had two sons and four daughters, their names were; Fred, Henry, Katie, the wife of Reverend J. S. Krehbiel, Lizzie, the wife of Edward Ruth, Abigail, wife of Oscar Ruth, and Emma.

It has been very hot and dusty to-day.

On April the nineteenth, in the year of 1910, John Hirstein went to Kansas, to visit his daughter Selma and then take her to La Junta, Colorado to place her in the Old Mennonite Sanitarium for Consumptives.

On the twenty third and twenty fourth of April, in the year of 1910, we had some unexpected severe cold weather accompanied by a lot of snow, sleet and ice. We were having normal weather for this season of the year, fruit trees were budding and blooming and some of the crops, such as oats and corn, had already been sown and planted. It looked as if there was going to be a very good crop of fruit this year. On the night of the twenty second, it turned cold, and by morning, everything was frozen and covered with snow and ice. The fruit crop, and the crops in the field that were sown and planted before the freezing weather set in, were all ruined. It was too late to resow any oats, and the corn that was replanted, did not give a good yield because it did not have a sufficient amount of time to mature properly. In general, fruit was very scarce and crops in the field gave a very poor yield this year. The severe cold weather lasted for only a few days, but it was long enough to ruin all of the fruit and crops in the fields.

My son, Wesley, was home over the week end during this unexpected severe, cold weather. It occurred on a Saturday and a Sunday.

During the first half of the month of June, in the year of 1910, we had many severe thunderstorms, with much wind and rain. The lightning struck the barn on Peter Lauer's place, and burned it to the ground.

On the thirteenth of June, we had another severe thunderstorm, accompanied by a lot of wind and rain. The storm did not do very much damage. The lightning struck and killed one of Henry Albert Ruth's cows.

The weather has been very warm. The corn is still so very small due to the fact that it was planted so late because of the cold spell we had in April.

On the twenty second of June, in the year of 1910, Peter Harry, while teething, for no reason any of us knew, had an attack of cramps which left him lame on his right side when he was only eighteen months old.

On the first day of July, in the year of 1910, we had a severe rain and thunderstorm during the night.

On the third and fourth of July, Wesley came out from Saint Louis, Missouri to pay us a visit. He has a job with Swift and Company. He started working for them on the twelfth of August, in the year of 1908.

On the twenty first of July, in the year of 1910, Sister Barbara, (Kliewer) and her husband Henry, and their children; Alida, Earl and Cecil, came to visit us and stayed for eighteen days. They came at a very busy time. The threshing season was not over yet. My son Alfred worked with one of the threshing rigs and had not finished his run yet, so the work around the house was accumulating, and this, left a lot of work to be done around the house and on the farm.

Sister Barbara's children were very pleasant, and brought some life and action into our home.

On the thirty first of July, which happened to be the last Sunday of the month, my son Wesley came out from Saint Louis and visited with us for a few hours and then went back home because he was very busy and had so much work to do in the office.

On Monday the eighth of August, my sister Barbara and her family, left here to return to their home in Halstead, Kansas. It was very hard for me to realize and I can hardly satisfy my mind that these eighteen days have passed by so quickly. It was with a heavy heart, that I watched them leave for their home.

On the nineteenth day of February, we had another severe storm, accompanied by a lot of rain.

On the fourth day of March, in the year of 1911, we had a severe snow storm, followed by cold weather that was quite a bit below the freezing point.

On March the ninth, Sister Jennie Baer, the wife of my brother John, came to our home. She came from Pennsylvania, where she had been visiting her ailing mother. She stayed until on the thirteenth and then left here to return to her home in Idaho.

On the eleventh of March, my son Wesley, came out from St. Louis, to visit us. His Company is about to transfer him to Memphis, Tennessee.

On the thirteenth of March, my son Wesley who had been working for Swift and Company in Saint Louis as their Book-Keeper, was transferred to their Plant in Memphis, Tennessee. He started to work for Swift and Company in the month of August, in the year of 1908.

On the fifteenth of March, we had a rain storm. It froze as soon as it hit the ground. Since there was still a lot of snow on the ground from the snow that fell on the fourth, we had a lot of snow and ice to contend with, on account of the severe cold weather.

Katherine Hirschler, Nee Hirstein, passed away in the home of her niece, Mary Reibold, from dropsy and general weakness due to old age on the fourteenth of April in the year of 1911, at the age of eighty eight years, four months and eight days. She was the widow of Reverend Daniel Hirschler and lived on their farm until he passed away, after that, she lived with her sister, Elizabeth (Glaesser), and after her passing, she made her home with her niece, Mary Reibold.

On Easter Sunday, the sixteenth day of April, in the year of 1911, my beloved mother passed away. She was sick for only eight days. On Sunday morning, she complained of a head-ache, but came to the table for her dinner. In the afternoon, Gustav and Anna came to pay us a visit, at which time she was in bed. She got up for a while on Monday, then went back to bed. The

next day, she complained of having pains between her shoulders, and on the left side of her spine. We got Doctor Poos who examined her and told us that it was a case of Pneumonia. (Which is what I said it was in the first place.) He came to see her every day, then on Saturday he told us, "Grandma is doing fine." The news of improvement gave me some hope for relief for attending to her was getting to be quite a chore and she did not want to take her medicine. But we failed to get the needed relief. She began to cough quite a bit, got weaker and weaker and very restless and she kept getting in and out of her bed. On Good Friday, she was up and told me to take charge of everything, after she passed away. Our Cousin Katherine Hirstein came for a visit on Saturday toward evening and gave us a promise to return on Sunday evening. Our mother passed away in peaceful sleep on Easter Sunday night at 10:30 P.M. in the presence of my Cousin Katherine Hirstein, my brother Sam, my son Alfred, and I, Mary E. Ruth, Nee Baer. Our Heavenly Father took her home and through his mercy, saved her from a long lingering illness and trouble. We informed the sisters and brothers. John in Idaho, Lizzie in Canada, Katie in California, but she could not come on account of the distance, sister Barbara, her husband Henry, and her son Cecil. Uncle Peter Berger, came for the funeral. Brother Daniel could not come. Sister Kliever stayed for eight days, which was a great help to me. Wesley came from Memphis, Tennessee for the funeral and was here for four days. Brother Albert left for his home on Friday. Six nephews: Jacob, David and Henry Ruth, Peter, David and Samuel Berger, were pall bearers.

Mother was born on the twenty second day of June, in the year of 1829 in Fraenking, Upper Bavaria. She confessed her faith, was baptized, and received into the church on the fourth of September, in the year of 1842 by Johannes Strohm. Brother Van Der Smissen had charge of the funeral services. Her earthly remains were laid to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

On the eighteenth of April, in the year of 1911, Wesley came home from Memphis, Tennessee, to attend the funeral of his grandmother. He was taking a part of his vacation at this time. He stayed with us for four days and then went back to Memphis. He has been working in Memphis, Tennessee a little over a year.

On the twenty ninth of April, in the year of 1911, Lucille Ethel was born to Gustav W. Ruth and Anna B. Ruth. Nee Hirstein. Their first child, a son, named Leroy C., was born on January the twenty seventh, in the year of 1910.

On Pentecost Day, the fourth of June, in the year of 1911, Selma Hirstein, a daughter of John Hirstein and Katherine Hirstein, Nee Baer, passed away in the home of her parents at the age of twenty five years, six months and twenty four days. She was born on the eleventh of November, in the year of 1885. Selma was ill for a long time. She had a very strong will and a good spirit, but in spite of the best medical care along with the best of nursing, she developed a case of consumption and succumbed to it. During December of the year of 1909, her father took her to the State of Texas where they stayed at the home of her Cousin Maggie Roberts (Wilson) for a little while, then she went to Geary, Oklahoma where she stayed at the home of Edwin Lehmann until in spring. From here she went to the Old Mennonite Sanitarium for Consumptives in La Junta, Colorado. Then to El Paso, Texas where she stayed until two weeks before she passed away. Selma had the pleasure of being with her folks who did all they could for her. She was spared the troubles and cares of this wordly life by being taken to her home on high, and she awaits her loved ones on the day of resurrection. Selma was baptized, and received into the church on October the first, in the year of 1899. Reverend Van Der Smissen, had charge of the funeral services. The text was Psalm 46, verses 1 and 2. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery at Summerfield, Illinois.

OBITUARY OF SELMA HIRSTEIN

Miss Selma Hirstein, a daughter of John Hirstein and Katherine Hirstein, Nee Baer, passed away in the home of her parents, near Summerfield, Illinois, on the fourth day of June, in the year of 1911. She was ill for a long time and everything possible was done that human hands could do to comfort and help her in the hope that a change of climate would relieve her. She travelled quite a bit, but to no avail. Just two weeks ago, she came back from El Paso, Texas, where she spent some time. But all efforts to prolong her life were futile, and like the true heroine she was, she fought a good fight, but had to surrender to the grim reaper of death. While she has gone from all of the conflict, sorrow and pleasures of life, she will still live in the hearts of those who knew her best. She was a kind, loving daughter and her devotions to the family circle had no limit. Her future was full of promises and we dare not ask why she was taken in the prime of her life. The funeral services were in charge of Reverend Van Der Smissen on Tuesday afternoon, June the sixth. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the Summerfield Cemetery.

^{Tina} On the thirtieth day of June, in the year of 1911, Emma Ledig passed away in the home of her father in Cugamonga, California. She had consumption. She was a daughter of Gerhard Ledig and Anna Hirschler. Anna was the widow of Peter Haury. Gerhard Ledig and his family moved to Cugamonga, California in the year of 1906. Mrs. Ledig was ill with consumption and passed away in Cugamonga in that same year.

On the first day of July, we had rain and thunderstorms all through the night.

Brother John had to go to North Carolina for his health, so Peter Boehr preached until in September.

On September the ninth, Reverend Jacob Krehbiel, together with his wife, their son Adolph and grandma Ringelman, made a stopover here on their way back from the General Conference, held in Bluffton, Ohio,

to pay us a visit. On the next day, which was Sunday the tenth, the young people who had been baptized on the previous Sunday, partook of the "Lord's Supper" for the first time. On Sunday evening, my son Robert and John Hirstein, took the visitors over to Lebanon, Illinois, from which point, they resumed the journey to their homes in Geary, Oklahoma.

On the twelfth day of September, after working at Willards in O'Fallon, Illinois, for one week, my son Robert went to Granite City, Illinois to work in the Granite City Stamping Works.

On Sunday morning, September the seventeenth, the Reverend Henry J. Krehbiel stopped off here to visit with relatives and friends, while on his way back to his home in Reedley, California, after attending the General Conference in Bluffton, Ohio.

He preached two sermons while he was here, one in the German language in the morning and the other one in the English language in the evening. The weather was not very pleasant in the morning because it was raining quite a bit.

On the evening of the seventeenth of September, in the year of 1911, Daniel Haury and his wife, stopped off here on their way to their home in Kansas, after having attended the General Conference in Bluffton.

The Haurys and Reverend Krehbiel, stayed here for five days and enjoyed a lot of visiting. Uncle Henry Berger took them around for a day, and John Hirstein took them around for another day. After that, Haurys left to return to their home in Halstead, Kansas and Reverend Krehbiel returned to his home in Reedley.

Ernest Paul Ruth, one of the twin boys of John A. Ruth and Clara Eymann, visited with us on the nineteenth. The other twin's name was Paul Ernest.

On the twentieth day of September, in the year of 1911, Ernest Paul Ruth and Meta Wichmann were united in Holy Matrimony in Saint Louis, Missouri. Meta was an adopted daughter of Henry C. Hornburg and Barbara Hornburg, Nee Krehbiel.

Ernest Paul Ruth lived in Reedley, California and Paul Ernest Ruth lived in Kansas.

Meta Wichmann's middle name was Bertha. She was a daughter of Frederick C. Wichmann and Bertha Pixberg. She was born at Huckswagen, Germany on the fifteenth day of July, in the year of 1886. The Hornburgs took her into their home, adopted, and raised her.

On the twenty ninth day of October, in the year of 1911, my son Gustav W. and family, came to our house for a visit. This day was the anniversary date of my birthday. It was on a Sunday and Doctor Schreller of the Syrian Orphan's Home, was in town and preached a sermon in our church. Doctor Schreller was traveling for the interest of the Syrian Orphan's Home. He was born in Jerusalem.

Daniel T. Eymann passed away very suddenly in his home in Reedley, California, on the thirtieth day of October, in the year of 1911. He attained the age of sixty years, two months and seven days.

His wife Barbara, was a daughter of Johannes Ruth and Elizabeth Dettweiler. She was a Cousin of Peter B. Ruth. She also passed away very suddenly in their home in Reedley, California, in the year of 1908.

On Sunday November the tenth, in the year of 1911, Uncle Reverend Van Der Smissen preached his farewell sermon in our church. He was going to Berne, Indiana to take the position as editor of the Mennonite Publications of the General Conference.

On Sunday November the tenth, in the year of 1911, Reverend John B. Baer, delivered his first sermon in our church, having been elected to take the place of Reverend Van Der Smissen.

On the eleventh day of November, John B. Baer and his wife, moved into the Mennonite Parsonage.

The month of November was very cold, with quite a lot of cold rain.

Reverend Van Der Smissen and his family left here to move into their new home in Berne, Indiana in the early part of the month of December.

The month of December was very cold with quite an excessive amount of rain, so much that it was rather difficult to harvest the corn crop, which was a very poor one. The early spring rains and wet weather delayed the planting, which gave it a late start, then it was severely damaged by the extremely dry weather that set in after the middle of July.

1912

The weather, was extremely cold during the entire month of January, with a lot of snow.

On the first day of February, in the year of 1912, my son Robert, came home from Granite City, Illinois where he had been working for Granite City Stamping Company. He quit his job there and came home to work for me until the end of the month of February.

On the fifteenth of February, in the year of 1912, Miss Agnes Ruth Latschar, passed away in her home at Meade, Kansas. She was a niece of Maria Latschar, Nee Eymann, sister of Barbara Pletscher, Nee Eymann.

The weather, was extremely cold during the entire month of February, with quite a lot of snow.

On the second day of March, we had some more snow but it was not quite as cold as it was in the first two months of this year. The roads were terrible.

On the sixth of March, in the year of 1912, Gustav W. Ruth and his family, moved to the Pletscher farm, three and one half miles from here. Daniel Hirstein and Stella Camp went with them to work for them. The farm belonged to Mrs. Barbara Pletscher, Nee Eymann, the widow of Michael Pletscher.

On the tenth day of March, in the year of 1912, my son Robert, went to Minnesota and worked there until the month of September. After that, he came home and worked on the farm for me.

On the twenty eighth day of March, in the year of 1912, Arthur Brandt, the son of John Brandt and Mary Brandt, Nee Hornburg, passed away in the home of his parents in Upland, California at the age of eighteen years, five months and seventeen days. Arthur Brandt

was born on his grandfather's farm near Summerfield, Illinois, on the eleventh of October, in the year of 1893 and went to Upland, California with his parents in the year of 1901. Arthur was a very unlucky young man. He was riding on a motorcycle and collided with another motorcycle, causing such a severe injury to one of his legs, that it had to be amputated. He had a lot of trouble in connection with the accident and had to have a lot of medical attention and Doctor's care. He was ill for two months and suffered quite a bit from pain until he passed away. His father, John Brandt, was in Summerfield, Illinois on a visit with friends and relatives when the accident occurred. He left for home, as soon as he heard of the accident. Arthur was a member of the Upland Mennonite Church. Funeral services, were in charge of the Reverends M. Horsch, John S. Hirschler and J. C. Wedel. Hirschler spoke in German and Wedel spoke in English. The text was, Psalm 73, verses 23 to 26, John 13, verse 7 and First Samuel 18, verse 29.

On the fifth of April, in the year of 1912, Alfred moved from Dennison, Texas to Little Rock, Arkansas.

Easter fell on the seventh of April in this year, but it was not celebrated on that day, on account of the very inclement weather.

On the seventh day of April, in the year of 1912, the Mennonite Church in Berne, Indiana was dedicated with quite an impressive ceremony. It cost more than 52,000 Dollars to build it and it took more than two years to finish it. The Reverend Samuel F. Sprunger was the Pastor of this Congregation for thirty three years and gave it up on account of his health. After this, J. W. Kliewer preached there for eight years. In August of the year of 1911, he, together with his wife and family, moved to Newton, Kansas to serve at Bethel College. Reverend Samuel F. Sprunger returned to the Berne Church when Reverend J. W. Kliewer left and since then, has been preaching there again. The Congregation has a mens choir of eighty voices and a

womens choir of one hundred and seventy five voices. Their Sunday School had 917 members, consisting of 57 classes, with an average attendance of 800 members. There were 135 on their cradle roll, 104 in the Home Department, 400 members in the young peoples Society and 310 members in the Sewing Society, a grand total of 1,156 members, all told.

On the twelfth day of April, in the year of 1912, there was a re-union of the Ruth Family in Halstead, Kansas. It was composed of the children of Reverend David Ruth and Katherine Strohm. Five brothers, John W., David C., Henry G., Jacob Ernest and Gerhard B., and three sisters, Susanna Krehbiel, Barbara Lehmann and Katherine Krehbiel.

Reverend David Ruth and Katherine Ruth, emigrated to America with their children, in the year of 1852. All of the children, with the exception of Gerhard B. who was born on the Franklin Prairie, in Lee County, Iowa, were born in Eichstock, Upper Bavaria.

At the time of the re-union, all of those who are mentioned above, were living in Harvey County, Kansas with the exception of Jacob Ernest who made his home in Kingfisher, Oklahoma, for the past twelve years.

The family made their first home in this country in Lee County, Iowa. In the year of 1865, the family moved to Saint Clair County, Illinois, in, and about the vicinity of Summerfield. The migratory movement to the naked prairies of Kansas manifested itself in the spring of the year of 1875, and before the end of the 70's, the mother, and nearly all of the children were living in Harvey County, Kansas. Reverend David Ruth, the father, passed away in Summerfield, in the spring of the year of 1867.

All of the children, made extensive purchases of land from the Sante Fe Rail-road at prices of from 2 to 6 Dollars per acre, depending upon it's location. All of them were in what one might call, rather poor circumstances, when they settled here along with the other early pioneers of this area.

The families are all large, well proportioned and well preserved men and women of good mentality, they have reached an average age of 66 1/2 years, ranging from 73 years for the eldest to 59 for the youngest. Their average height is 5 feet 10 inches, and their weight ranges from 112 to 195 pounds, for an average of 160 1/2 pounds.

Together, they have been parents of 85 children, and grandparents of 60 children. The oldest, Susanna Ruth Krehbiel, widow of the late Reverend Christian Krehbiel, had 16 children and 12 of them are living. Even though she has had so many hardships to bear in her pioneer life, she is today, the picture of health and happiness at the allotted age of three score and ten, and her appearance is more like that of a woman of fifty, rather than that of her actual seventy two. They celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary, in the year of 1908.

Barbara Lehmann is two years younger and although she shows her age more, she would today, outwork six so called "Society Butterflies" when it comes to the actual work. Barbara and her husband, David Lehmann, celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary, in the year of 1911. Barbara gave birth to 15 children, all but one of whom are living. She is a grandmother of nineteen children.

Katherine Ruth Krehbiel (Mrs. Johannes Krehbiel.) lost her husband at an early age. He died of Typhoid Fever in Iowa. He along with a number of others, had been to the west in search of a suitable location to settle and form a new colony. This left her with her three children, Ernest, Adolph and Ruth. Ernest died in Summerfield shortly after the death of his father and Adolph died in Halstead in the year of 1894. The widow and Ruth, are the only survivors.

John W. Ruth, is the eldest brother and father of six living children. The other four brothers, listed from the eldest to the youngest are: David C., Henry G., Jacob Ernest and Gerhard B..

Their re-union was held in the home of Aunt Katie Krehbiel of Halstead, Kansas.

(The above article is not to be taken as being an accurate enumeration of the children of this family. It does not take into consideration, those who passed away in their infancy.)

On the twelfth day of April, in the year of 1912, Anna Funk lost her life, on the so called unsinkable liner "Titanic". She was a missionary worker and her fatal day, fell on her thirty eighth birthday.

On the fifteenth of April, in the year of 1912, we had a severe thunder-storm with a lot of rain during the night.

On the twenty first of April, in the year of 1912, we celebrated Easter. The celebration was delayed on account of the inclement weather occurring on Easter Sunday, the seventh day of April.

The Easter program was held in our church in the morning. Mary Dueck, who was staying with us at the time, played several numbers on the organ. The Choir and the children sang several numbers. Reverend Poth of the Evangelical Church gave a discourse about the singing and Reverend Schutz of the Methodist Church, gave one on the significance of Easter. The Reverend Schutz spoke in english. The main part of the Church was decorated with many beautiful flowers.

Mary Dueck, who was visiting at our house at the time, was staying at the home of her sister Anna who lived in Granite City, Illinois. Anna was married to my cousin, John Edward Ruth.

During the Easter Holidays, my son Alfred and John Hirstein, went to Berne, Indiana to visit with Cousin Lizzie Van Der Smissen. On their way back, they ran into some heavy rain which took some of the pleasure out of their trip.

On the twenty fourth day of April, in the year of 1912, Henry G. Ledig passed away in his home in Alta Loma, California. He reached the age of forty seven years, nine months and twenty eight days. He married

Bertha Ruth on December the twenty third, in the year of 1894. The couple moved to California early in the year of 1895. He had a stroke on the eleventh day of June, in the year of 1911, which left him lame on his left side. He contracted a case of Typhus from which he never fully recovered, it developed into Pleuresy and the complications, caused him to lose his life. Reverends John S. Hirschler and M. Horsch had charge of the funeral services that were held in the Upland Mennonite Church. The text was taken from Matthew 5, verse 8 and Hebrews 9, verse 27.

On July the seventeenth, in the year of 1912, Rosa Heer passed away in the home of her daughter Carrie at the age of seventy four years and ten months. Her passing was due to general weakness and old age. She was staying with her daughter Lena prior to the time she went to her daughter Carrie's home. Her husband, Samuel Heer, passed away seven years ago survived by three grown children, Samuel, John and Lizzie. Rosa was survived by her five sons, Charles, Adam, Henry, Philip and Christian, and her three daughters, Lena, Carrie and Katie. Funeral services were in charge of Reverend John B. Baer. Her earthly remains were lain to rest in the family lot in the Mascoutah Cemetery.

(The notation: "Samuel Heer was survived by three grown children" seems to indicate that he might have had three children by a previous marriage.)

We have not had any severe storms in our area for quite some time now. There were several cyclones in the surrounding areas and the Mississippi River rose out of it's banks in some sections and flooded quite a few of the low lands along it's course.

On the eighteenth of August, in the year of 1912, Carrie Wittmore, Nee Schaeffer, passed away in her home near Summerfield, Illinois at the age of twenty one years, eleven months and seventeen days. She was born in Missouri the thirtieth of August, in the year of 1890. She was baprized on her confession of faith and received into the Summerfield Mennonite Church